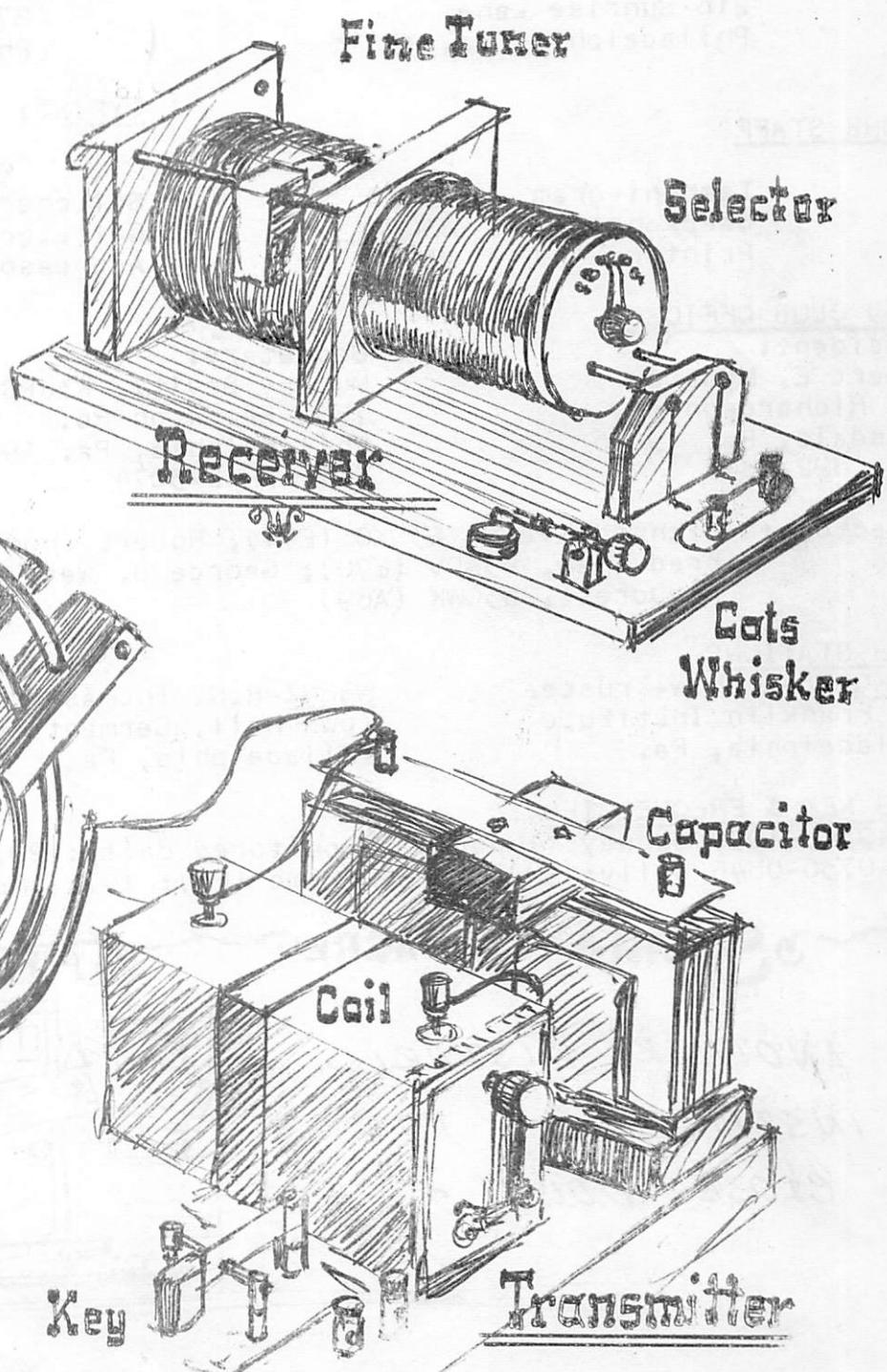


# The BLURB



• W3QV • W3TKQ • W3RQZ •

SPARK GAP  
TRANSMITTER  
by W3QV



The BLURB is published monthly by and for the members of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc. Our purpose is to further the interest of amateur radio in general and mobile radio in particular. We endeavor to keep the news accurate, interesting and educational. Copying and quoting is permitted, with a credit line and we gladly exchange subscriptions with other clubs.

DEADLINE: All material must be in the hands of the Editor before the 15th of the month preceding issue. The BLURB is mailed on the last Monday of each month.

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CLUB STATIONS

W3TKQ-Fred Shaw-Trustee  
The Franklin Institute  
Philadelphia, Pa.

W3RQZ-R.G. Thomas-Trustee  
Town Hall, Germantown  
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W3QV-C. Spencer-Trustee  
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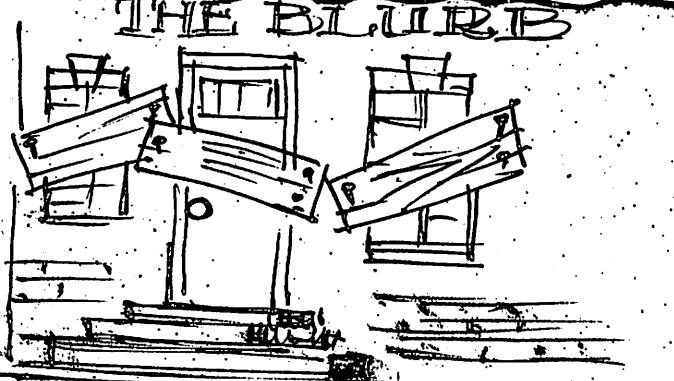
CLUB NET & FREQUENCIES

29.493mc-1000 Sunday (10-on-10) monitored daily; 29.626mc 2nd Freq.; 3993kc  
SSB-0730-0845 daily; 50.7mc; 52.525mc (FM); 147.78mc.

# Sam's HALF ACRE

ANOTHER HISTORIC  
INSTITUTION TO  
CLOSE DOWN?

# THE BLURB



## THE PREZ SEZ

This year we have had two very thoughtful reminders of old friends of Philmont. Laura Martin (W3QV's XYL) and Anne Hecht (W3WNC's XYL) have both sent donations to Philmont in memory of Brad and Hy. I would like to take this opportunity to officially thank these two friends of our Club for their thoughtfulness. Both of the men did very much for amateur radio in general, and for Philmont in particular. At the present time there has been no formal disposition of the memorial gifts, but I am sure that they will serve to help the members think of two fine men. Let us hope this is not buried in one of those corners of the Blurb that nobody reads, because I am sure that all the members will join me in saying "Thank you Laura and Anne, from the bottom of our hearts."

The first part of this article has started me thinking how much an organization grows to depend on certain people. Our club has been fortunate in having some members who have been very active. Some of these men are still very active, some are not so active for one reason or another. I would like to extend an invitation to some of the ones who have grown inactive, and some who have not yet seen fit to become very active, to really get into the swing of things and keep us on the move. I am sure that many of you hope you do not have to read or listen to me anymore on this subject. After seeing some of the members who have been to our meetings this spring, maybe you will not be exposed to any more comments on the subject. We have been happy to see some old friends.

73

Bob, K3UWO,

\* \* \* \* \*

## PHIL-MONT CALENDAR

Monday June 2      Regular Meeting, Franklin Institute  
Programs: K3WQQ talk on helicopters

Wednesday June 18      Midmonth Meeting at W3QQH

Saturday/ Sunday June 28/29      Field Day - Roxborough

Mon-Sun July 14-20      Nationals Model Airplane Contest

## THE EDITOR'S VIEW

My latest tour as Editor of the BLURB has been most interesting for me, particularly when it is contrasted to my previous stint of just ten very short years ago. To see what I mean, notice the synopsis of our activities for June 1959, elsewhere in this issue, and compare that with what is (or is not) happening today.

Without getting into a maudlin discussion of the past and how different things are now, let's look for a moment at how the structure and administration of our club has been changed to adapt to the new conditions. It hasn't. We are still going on today with the same, if not more complicated, administrative framework that we had when things were getting done, only now nothing much gets done. Regular meetings with a total of twenty-three members and guests are getting ludicrous. Then after talking about virtually nothing at one meeting we have another one two weeks later. We spend more time talking about nothing than we used to spend in planning genuine activity. How much longer can this go on?

If Phil-Mont is to remain viable we must streamline our organization before the boredom changes to rigor mortis. The club is top-heavy with committees; the ones that don't do anything should either start performing, or the committee should be dropped. Consideration should be given to changing the conduct of meetings; is it just coincidence that when we discussed business and made decisions at Regular meetings that we consistently drew three times the attendance we draw now? Our membership policy should be reviewed; only one out of six new members from last year is active today - why did the others join? (or, more to the point, why did we let them in?) The repeater project should be given greater support and there should be a concerted club program to get more mobiles on Channel 1. After all, it does say Mobile in our name, doesn't it?

The questions posed above are not rhetorical. They all deserve answers, or at least serious consideration from our leaders. AND THEY SHOULD BE ACTED UPON, not dismissed after one month's deliberation as we have been doing.

Changes will not occur over night, if at all. It will require some thought and planning on the part of the club administration and it will require some responsibility and work on the part of a goodly portion of the membership. Either accept the challenge or accept the demise of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club.

Many thanks to all who contributed material and encouragement during my term as ED.

## THIS MONTH'S COVER

Shortly before he died, W3QV built a replica of an early wireless rig. It is depicted on our cover in a drawing by WA3CNI, based on some Polaroid pictures made by WA3DMR. Laura Martin tells us that any of the Phil-Mont gang is welcome to visit her and see the actual equipment, which is authentic right down to the oatmeal box. This is a good chance for all us young squirts to see how it was in "Olden Days". Incidentally, Laura is quite proud to have been elected an Honorary Associate Member, and has recently made a donation to the club to show her appreciation. The pleasure is ours, too.

## FIELD DAY

Field Day Committee Meeting was held at QTH of chairman Jim Bock K3PHC on the 15th of May.

Only attendees were Irv K3KNH and Murray K3SPS besides K3PHC. Let's hope that this lack of interest does not affect our Field Day operation. We will operate 80M CW, 40M SSB, 20 or 15M SSB, 10M AM, 6M either SSB or AM, 2M AM provided we get enough operators throughout the night and day. All potential operators inform 10-on-10 or 75M net controls of your willingness to operate and time available.

K3PHC

ED Note: You must bring original Operator's license with you to operate FD station. You may only operate in sub-bands for which your license qualifies you, and there will be no operation in Extra Class sub-bands.

## BY-LAW REVISION

K3TKZ has put a lot of original thinking into his By-laws proposals and has also provided copies of our present rules for anybody who wants them for marking-up with proposed changes. However, you do it, let ED know what you think so he can consider it for his final proposal. We will have to begin acting soon to meet requirements for notification of changes if we expect to modify the election rules before the December meeting.

## CHANGE IN BLURB STAFF

K3GNJ will take over BLURB printing chores from W3QZO beginning with next month's issue. Thus, what ED thought would be the most difficult vacancy to fill was taken care of with dispatch. We still need an Editor, but WA3CNI will take care of producing the BLURB for July. That leaves you just one month to procrastinate before volunteering to be regular Editor.

MAY 1959: I CAN HEAR IT NOW

From the BLURB of 10 years past: There were two-hundred-and twenty-eight check-ins on the 10-on-10; the same number checked in the previous month. We had fourteen guests at the regular meeting to plan our midway picnic at Havre de Grace in conjunction with the Washington Mobile RC. And after that was our first all-mobile FD, followed by a clam bake. Anne Hecht was typing the BLURB in those days and Hy was in charge of printing and mailing. A "Ham Clinic" question and answer session was planned for next meeting program (ADV: note). MM was at W3DOU. W3SGR was copying SSB on a 1932 BC set. W3YJM was 10-on-10 chief NCS. W3DJW wanted a beam for a graduation present. There were fourteen visitors to the regular meeting, among them K3EID, K3DJE, K3GBA, W3DD and W3DJW. Meetings were held at Germantown Town Hall in those days. The BLURB cover was drawn by none other than W3YHV and depicted a multi-armed ham operating FD from his mobile. W3DSG was nearing completion of his new mobile rig. Was that the one with the 4½-inch S-meter mounted on the dash? W3AWH was President, and W3VXN was our official cinematographer.

\* \* \* \* \*

MURPHY'S CORNER

Selected extracts from "The Contributions of Edsel Murphy to the Understanding of the Behavior of Inanimate Objects" by D.L. Klipstein.

From the field of general engineering, Murphy asserts the following:

"Original drawings will be mangled by the copying machine."

From the field of prototyping and production he finds:

"After the last of 16 mounting screws has been removed from an access cover, it will be discovered that the wrong access cover has been removed."

And along with this:

"After an access cover has been secured by 16 hold-down screws, it will be discovered that the gasket has been omitted."

de W3WXC

## FINAL COMMENT ON APRIL

Dear Bob,

Thank you very much for putting me on the mailing list to receive the Phil-Mont Radio Club "Blurb." I hope that I continue to receive it when the new editor takes over.

For what it is worth, I thoroughly enjoyed the April Fool features. In fact, I took great glee in quoting parts of it to some of my friends on both sides of the aisle. Sorry, though, that you found out that one of the penalties about writing social humor is that the closer you come to reality, the funier the item becomes. Unfortunately, however, few of us like the shafts to hit too close, Hi.

73,

Herbert S. Brier, W9EGQ  
Amateur Radio Editor  
POPULAR ELECTRONICS

ED Note: Amen!

## MEETINGS TO COME

Our energetic Program Chairman W3ADV continues to ferret-out good program material. Freddy has K3WQQ lined up for the June Meeting to show slides and relate some of his experiences in helicopter training; promises to be an interesting meeting. The July and August programs are open at present, but in September W3QCV will present his talk, followed in October by W3DD, Physics Professor at Haverford College. Looking still further toward the future, Fred has conned W3SMA into a return engagement for November. Now all we need is somebody to con the members into attending the meetings.

## W3WNC MEMORIAL

Phil-Mont has received a very generous gift in memory of Hy Hecht, whose untimely passing occurred just a year ago. Anne Hecht has given us one hundred dollars to acquire something for the club to help us remember Hy. We all certainly appreciate her thoughtfulness and can assure her that no one who knew Hy will ever forget him.

IT'S LIKE THIS, SEE...

We're on the roof of the PSFS Building, see, and making a sound-on-film commercial. The sound is being recorded separately on tape. To keep the camera speed in sync with the tape speed, we use a 33 mhz tone. The soundman goes ape. All he can hear, louder than the dialogue on the mike is, "KGC 299 contact Philadelphia...there are no messages". It seems we are right under the tower for this 34 mhz FM answering service. We are, in fact, in an rf bath. It happened. to me/

Fred WA3DMR

CARDS

As announced here earlier, self-addressed stamped cards were mailed with a letter of explanation to a wide cross-section of the membership to obtain news for the BLURB. Cards were not sent to those we see frequently or to any who we considered "poor risks" for returning the card. In other words, the cards were stacked (UGH) in favor of obtaining answers. But in spite of this only eighteen answers were received from seventy cards mailed out. That works out to a cost of 47¢ per reply. Hardly worth the money, not to mention the time; however, neither of these are significant in comparison to the demonstration of lack of interest in the club paper and the inadvisability of making a substantial monetary outlay for its improvement.

All complaints aside though, we want to express our thanks to all those who did take a few minutes of their time to keep us informed.

SCOOP

W3VVS passed around several bags of goodies at MM held at his QTH in April. Transistors, diodes, etc. all brand new.. W3PDJ was heard in QSO with W3AUF on Channel 1 recently... W3QQH has been testing for TVI on the frequency. Tsk, tsk.. W3CDY is checking into 10/10 via W3TKQ...K3RTR attended Dayton Hamvention...W3OM will be operating from Sinking Springs, Pa. for first two weeks of this month using 3993. Then it's off to Ocean City where he operates as K2IV during the summer...The Jenkintown Times recently published a picture of Laura Martin in connection with her work for Good Will Industries...W3WX (ex JKH) hasn't been able to make our meetings due to being elected as secy in Evergreen Soccer Club. We always knew he had the head for that sort of thing...WA3LLK is young grandson of W3SGR. Now if we

SCOOP (Cont'd)

can just get Grandpop to bring him to our meetings...W3WXC is building a digital voltmeter...K3KNH has been off the air on SSB due to problems with carrier balance and intermittent RF output from his hotwater...Duane Spencer pitched a no-hitter in first game of the season...W3PXW, who participated in our recent program on QRP rigs is moving up in the Army Corps of Engineers...Don't forget to get your ideas on Bylaws to K3TKZ.

W3GIF is now on 6 fm mobile. Al has also recently acquired an HA-410 for his 10 meter mobile...W3WXC replaced his nylon guys with tensilized copper after former were damaged in heavy wind. That could happen to anybody on Ch 1.... K3PHC is on 3990 with the Roosters until 0700, then 3993 with PMRC, and finally, 7255 East Cars. Jim is looking for a kw Matchbox...W3QQH has come up with a simple method of xtal control for the HA-410. Details later, or see Jim. K3KNH is house hunting. Expects to be relocated around end of summer...Bond payoff list is being revised by K3NYL who expects to refund the \$150 that has been budgeted for that purpose this year...You've gotta know where to go when you need something. W3VVS furnished color code information on an Atwater Kent rcvr to W3YHV...W3WX would like to see an evening weekday net on 3993. ED would like to see one on 29.493...Gerry reports Don Mc Millen, W3FCT is a new station on fm in the Reading area...W3KN has been bitten by the CW DX bug and is thinking of making antenna changes to improve his chances...W3EQV has been running checks on a walkie-talkie on Channel 1---W3AES is getting out FB with his new 15-element 2 meter beam at 65 feet...We are sorry to note the passing of W3AWH's father...W3OWK is looking for one of the RTTY TU terminal boards made and distributed by ED a few years back. Maybe he can pry one loose that is being "saved until I get the time to wire it up"...Whistle-up is no longer being used with the W3QQH repeater. Just start talking on 29.640. Jim has been back and forth to the repeater site a thousand times in the last month trouble shooting and making adjustments. Latest is a switch in location of xmtr and rcvr. Former is now at WFLN tower.

WA3ABU has been invited to participate in Lower Merion CD drills and meetings by Gene Mitchell, K3DSM. DSM is Radio Officer, and holds drills every Thursday at 1930 on 147.21MHz. Meetings are on the fourth Thursday in L.M. Police HQ..... How did W3WXC manage to pull his own ticket at May prize drawing????....Reading RC picnic will be August 24 at Berkshire Meadows where ever that is. They will operate W3BN from

SCOOP (Cont'd)

Mt. Penn on FD...W3QQH is in the process of installing a new fuel feed system for the Comm Bus put-put. Starting trouble turned out to be difficulty in drawing fuel from main tank so W3VVS traded a used muffler for a used electric fuel pump. The pump will only be used for initial starting; pump on put-put will then take over. A filter and alternate feed line are also being added....K3GNM is still not exactly mobile yet.

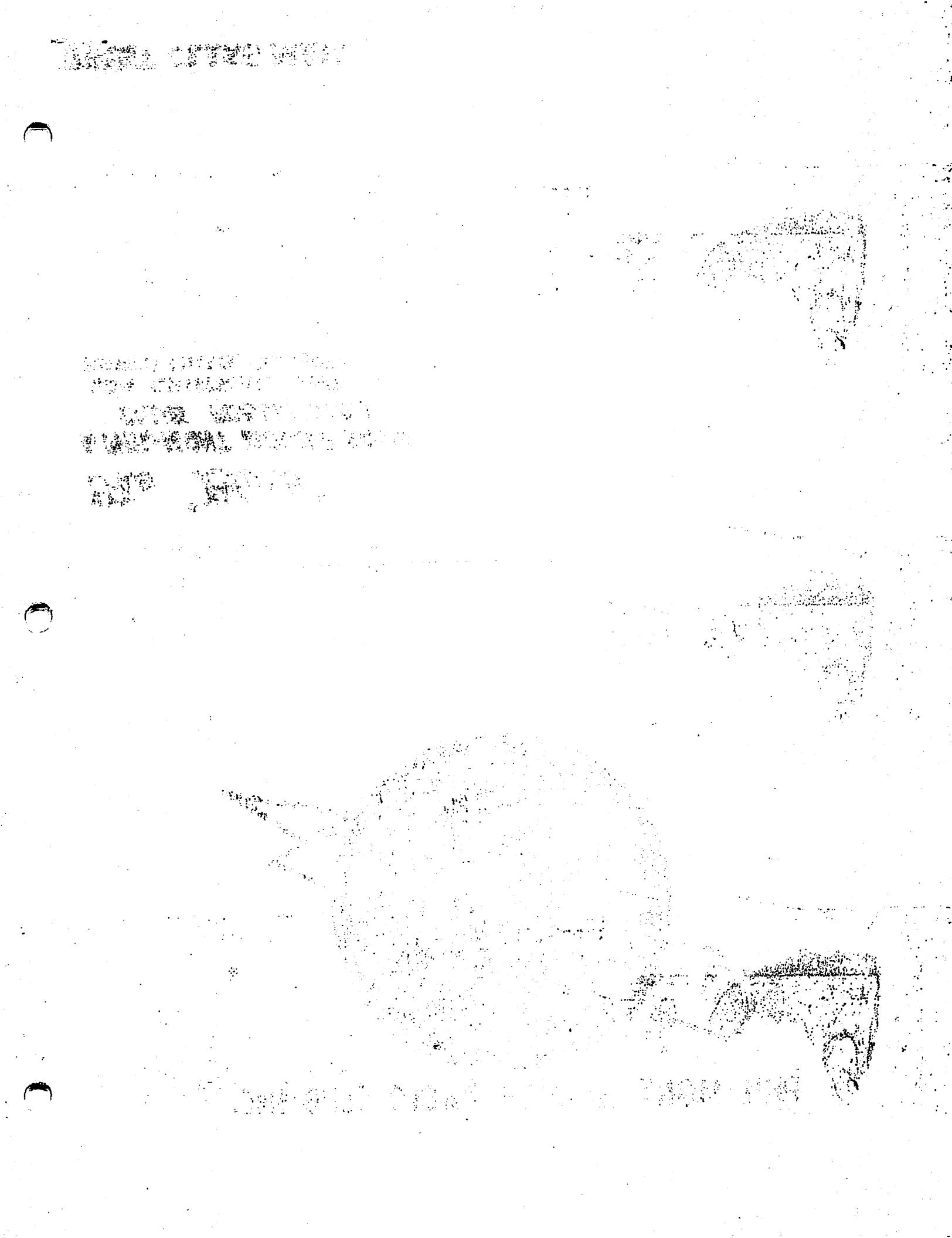
W3AUF is putting finishing touches on his swimming pool. When not soaking in his pool, Spike is going to hit the camping trail with his new camping trailer...East Cars net on 7255 is attracting some attention locally...Murphy struck again: W3VVS got six special diodes for his power supply. One was open...K3RTR got results for the second time from a Swap and Shop item...K3KNH now has an eight foot whip for his mobile and reports improved receiving compared to his former top-loaded CB ant. It results in about  $\frac{1}{2}$  S-unit improvement in transmitted signal...Don't fail to compete for up to \$1,000,000 in prizes in new BLURB contest. Details will be explained by the new ED...W3QZO has his 2 meter fm rcvr operating, but doesn't anticipate very good results until a change is made from horizontal beam to vertical coax...W3TKZ and XYL are expecting their third harmonic at the end of October...That's it from here--- see you on Channel 1.

— SPECIAL NOTICE —

THE EQUIPMENT LISTED BELOW WAS REMOVED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION (STOLEN) FROM THE CD CENTER AT FOX CHASE SCHOOL. IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THIS GEAR, NOTIFY WOODY HALDEMAN, W3PST, MU6-3695.

COLLINS KWM-2 S/N 12468, w/ P.S. SPKR & VSWR IND.  
COLLINS 32V-3 S/N 1249, w/ MIKE  
COLLINS 75A-3 S/N 679

ELECTROCOM FREQUENCY SHIFT CONVERTER FSC-250 S/N 4578  
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